GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:311
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2006
SHORTAGE OF KEROSENE
Prasad Shri Hari Kewal;Yadav Shri Giridhari

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the total demand of kerosene in the country;

(b) whether there is a shortage of kerosene to meet the demand;

(c) whether the Government has imported the kerosene to meet the demand;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the rates at which it was imported during each of the last three years;

(e) whether some State Governments have requested for increasing the quota of kerosene for their States;

(f) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(g) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA)

(a) to (g): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (G) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO 311 TO BE ANSWERED ON 17TH AUGUST 2006 REGARDING SHORTAGE OF KEROSENE ASKED BY SHRI GIRIDHARI YADAV AND SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:

(a) & (b): Kerosene consumption in the country is of either Kerosene distributed through the Public Distribution system (PDS) or free market Kerosene. PDS Kerosene is a subsidized product and the Government of India allocates it to the States on quarterly basis. The details of PDS Kerosene allocated to the States during 2005-06 and the first two quarters of 2006-07 are at Annex. As of 10.08.06, the public sector oil marketing companies (OMCs) had overall Kerosene stocks at their supply locations in various States sufficient to meet 25 days requirement on all India basis for allocated quantities. The distribution of PDS Kerosene to the consumers and its mechanism is handled entirely by the State Governments.

In addition to PDS Kerosene, oil companies sell free market Kerosene as per requirement.

(c) & (d): Yes, Sir. The details of Kerosene imported by the OMCs during the last three years and the average rates are as under: -

Year	Quantity (in Thousand Metric Tonnes)	Rate(Rs/MT)
2003-04	Nil	Nil
2004-05	210.4	20403
2005-06	876.1	25150

(e) to (g): Various State Governments have been requesting increase in their PDS Kerosene allocation. During the current year, such requests have been received from West Bengal, Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Orissa, Kerala, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Uttaranchal and Nagaland. The matter of rationalization of allocation of PDS Kerosene among the states is under the consideration of the Government.